

## THE NEW ENTERPRISE

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COLUMBUS B. SMITH, Editor.

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THURSDAY, JULY 4, 1907.

Fourth of July. Don't your blood tingle with patriotism and love for your country?

If the State press continues to treat Laud Brown's announcement for the United States Senate in the same manner in which it has commenced that gentleman will be ashamed to confess in after days that he even had designs on the job.

Madison county will be enriched several thousand dollars each year by the provisions of the new pension law. Madison county sent a large number of gallant soldiers to the front in the days of the sixties who served their country faithfully and well.

Hoke Smith was inaugurated Governor of Georgia in Atlanta last Saturday in the presence of an immense crowd and amid much enthusiasm. In his inaugural speech Gov. Smith advocated disfranchisement of the negro and suggested that in negro schools more attention should be given to instruction in manual labor and less to book teaching.

Governor Broward chose wisely when he selected Col. Charles E. Davis of Madison as one of the Commissioners authorized by the late legislature to audit the Indian War claims in Florida. Col. Davis, besides being a well informed lawyer, is a gentleman of unquestioned integrity and probity, and will be just and fair to every claimant as well as to the State.

Georgia now has troubles of her own. The legislature is in session. It is said to be almost a certainty that the present session will produce a State prohibition law. If such be the case look out for similar enactment by the Florida legislature when it meets again, for, you know, what Georgia does or has done is, to the mind of certain legislators, the proper thing for Florida to do also.

The announced intention of Representatives Reese of Escambia and Rowe of Madison to enjoin the payment of the appropriations for the Tampa and DeFuniak fairs is being received with gladness in some quarters and sorrow in others. Of course the Tampa papers are up in arms about it and promptly denounce those papers which comment favorably upon the proposition as being narrow, selfish and possessed of all the other evil characteristics known to the human race. There is no need to get excited about it, at all. The question is to be decided purely from a legal standpoint. If the appropriations are illegal then the money should not be paid, while if on the other hand, the laws of the State authorize the giving away of the money of the taxpayers of the whole State for the benefit of a few citizens of one city in the State, then—why then, the law ought to be changed.

Gov. Beckham of Kentucky is the latest son of the South to be brought forward by his friends for the Democratic nomination for President.

In the Punta Gorda Herald General Albert Gilchrist is writing weekly letters about the Internal Improvement Fund and the lands controlled by that body. The burden of the general's letters is to the effect that if upon final adjudication it is determined that the lands belong to the railroads he will, if then governor, see that they are placed upon the tax books at the earliest possible moment so that the State may derive some revenue from them. We rather expect that whoever may be governor at the time will be guilty of the same act and just as promptly.

Judge Wolfe over in the First Circuit set the pace in blind tiger cases in Jackson county last week when he refused to impose a fine against a negro man convicted of selling blind tiger booze but sentenced him to a term on the "gang," at the same time giving notice of his intention to deal out like sentence to every person so convicted, without regard to color or station in life. The action of the judge is, in our opinion, eminently proper, and if followed by the judges of the other circuits of the State would result, after a few convictions and sentences, in the complete routing of the blind tigers.

So far as we have seen Madison county has the smallest delinquent tax sale of any county in the State.—Gainesville Elevator. And yet the list as published this year was almost twice as much as for many years previous. The truth is Madison county lands are entirely too valuable for the owners to permit them to be sold for the somewhat considerable item of taxes. Our lands are productive. Sea Island cotton, corn, 'taters, pease and other things of like value grow bountifully thereon and now that tobacco culture has proven an unqualified success it will be a difficult matter to secure lands without paying a big price for them. If you would have a piece of the most productive land to be found in all Florida, come to Madison county and settle down with us.

Some of the State papers are just now discussing the overworked phrase of the peanut politician—"the common people." Perhaps at one time there was something in the name to conjure with. "God must have loved the common people, because he made so many of them," declared Abraham Lincoln. Nowadays, however, the term has degenerated into the catch-phrase of the demagogue. In our heart of hearts none of us like to be classed as common people, no matter how common we may be. If you don't believe this, just intimate to your next-door neighbors that they are common people, and see if there isn't a hot time in the old town. And yet we will howl approval when some blooming blather-skite of a pot-boiled politician applies the epithet to us, and tells us how he is fighting the battles of the common people, when in simple truth he is merely mounting on our foolish shoulders to the goal of his own selfish ambitions. "What fools these mortals be!"—Lakeland News

Editor L'Engle promises the readers of The Sun a real, sure-enough sensation in that paper of July 13th issue. Something in the nature of a conspiracy and the "exposure of a plot, high handed and diabolical, involving men professionally and politically prominent." This startling and sensational story will be embellished with the photographs of the men involved. You can just bet that the story will be told in an interesting manner, for that is editor L'Engle's particular style. We await the "exposure" with eagerness.

Secretary of Agriculture Wilson says that the price of meats is going to keep on advancing. This sounds like another boost for his protege, the great American hen.

### MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

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Animals cannot laugh, assert the scientists. Can't they? To grin like a dog is as old as holy writ and other instances might be cited. Anyhow another nature fakir has exposed his ignorance of animals.

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